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**2006 JUNE ACREAGE
COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

Drought conditions returned to Colorado after a dry winter and spring. Mountain snowpack was above average in the northern areas, but southern and western areas were below average. Above average temperatures in May and June accelerated mountain snowmelt and increased evaporation from streams and snowfields. As a result, water restrictions for irrigation remain in effect for many prime growing areas in the state and directly influenced planting decisions this year. Actual harvested acreage will depend in large part on the amount of moisture received during the coming months.

Colorado **corn** producers intend to harvest 840,000 acres for grain from the 1,000,000 acres planted in 2006. This is a decrease of 12 percent from last year for intended harvested grain acreage and a 9 percent decrease in planted acreage for all purposes. **Sorghum** plantings, at 200,000 acres, increased 25 percent from the previous year but acreage expected to be harvested for grain, at 120,000, increased only 9 percent as growers expect to harvest a smaller proportion of planted acres for grain.

Winter wheat producers expect to harvest 2,000,000 acres from the 2,400,000 planted in the fall of 2005. This is 200,000 acres below last year's harvested area. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 20,000 acres, are unchanged from 2005. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 19,000 acres, also equal to last year. **Oat** seedings increased 10,000 acres to 85,000, but producers plan to harvest 15,000 acres for grain, unchanged from 2005. **Barley** planted acres, at 50,000, is 10,000 below last year's acreage and a new record low since records began in 1924. Expected harvested acres, at 45,000, is 24 percent below 2005 and will be the smallest harvested area since 1905, if realized. **Proso millet** seedings are expected to total 290,000 acres this year, unchanged from 2005.

All hay area to be harvested is expected to decrease 10,000 acres from a year ago to 1,540,000 acres. **Alfalfa hay** acreage is expected to decrease 30,000 from last year to 770,000 acres. **All other hay** acreage harvested is expected increase 20,000 acres to 770,000 acres. **Sugarbeet** plantings increased 7,200 acres from last year to 43,600 acres. The expected harvested area, at 42,000 acres, is 7,700 acres above last year. Acres planted to **dry beans**, at 80,000, are down 36 percent from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 70,000.

All sunflower planted area at 140,000 acres, is 75,000 acres below last year. Oil type varieties totaled 100,000 acres, down 50,000 while non-oil type varieties is set at 40,000 acres, down 15,000. **Summer potatoes** showed a 12 percent

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER MAY 2006

Red meat production in **Colorado** during May 2006 totaled 170.0 million pounds, up 8 percent from the 157.7 million pounds produced during May 2005 and 19 percent above April 2006. The accumulated production for the first five months of this year now totals 750.5 million pounds, up 8 percent from the 694.9 million pounds produced during the comparable period last year. Cattle kill during May increased 5 percent from the previous year to 207,000 head. The average live weight of 1,246 pounds was 35 pounds above the average for May 2005. Hog slaughter increased 11 percent to 1,000 head but the average live weight decreased to 264 pounds, down 4 pounds from a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.05 billion pounds in May, up 9 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in May 2005. Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 11 percent above the previous year. Veal production totaled 13.1 million pounds, 1 percent below May a year ago. Pork production totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.54 million head, 6 percent above May 2005. Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was up 10 percent from May 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States ^{1/}

Area and Specie	May 2005	Apr. 2006	May 2006	January-May	
				2005	2006
	Million Pounds				
Colorado	157.7	142.8	170.0	694.9	750.5
United States	3,713.5	3,614.2	4,049.1	18,283	19,149
Beef.....	2,074	1,973	2,297	9,686	10,348
Veal.....	13.2	10.9	13.1	64.9	61.5
Pork.....	1,611	1,613	1,722	8,453	8,657
Lamb & Mutton.....	14.8	17.0	16.3	79.4	82.4

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding.

Nationally, corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 4.36 billion bushels, up 1 percent from June 1, 2005. Of the total stocks, 2.35 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 5 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.01 billion bushels, are up 8 percent from a year ago. Soybeans stored in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 990 million bushels, up 42 percent from June 1, 2005. On-farm stocks totaled 496 million bushels, up 39 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 495 million bushels, are up 44 percent from the previous year. All wheat stored in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 568 million bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 111 million bushels, down 31 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 457 million bushels, are up 21 percent from a year ago.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES JUNE 15, 2006

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in June, at 118, based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points (2.6 percent) from May. The Crop Index is down 2 points (1.6 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 6 points (5.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for broilers, sweet corn, hogs, and broccoli. Lower prices were received for lettuce, cantaloup, corn, and strawberries. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of wheat, grapes, hay, and cantaloup offset decreased marketings of oranges, tomatoes, strawberries, and sweet corn.

The June index is 126, down 1.6 percent from May but 5.0 percent above June 2005. The June all wheat price, at \$3.96 per bushel, is down 13 cents from May but up 73 cents from June 2005. The corn price, at \$2.05 per bushel, is down 12 cents from last month but 2 cents above June 2005. The all hay price, at \$109 per ton, is \$5.00 below May but up \$7.00 from last June. The soybean price, at \$5.57 per bushel, decreased 11 cents from May but is \$1.01 below June 2005. The all dry bean price, at \$18.50 per cwt, is down 90 cents from the previous month and \$9.20 below June 2005.

The June Livestock and Products index, at 110, is 5.8 percent above last month but down 6.0 percent from June 2005. The June hog price, at \$53.20 per cwt, is up \$5.00 from May and \$3.70 higher than a year ago. The June beef cattle price of \$84.00 is up \$1.80 from last month but \$4.00 lower than June 2005. The June all milk price of \$12.10 is up 10 cents from last month but down \$2.30 from June 2005.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2005		2006	
	May	June	May	June
	Percent			
Prices Received	119	119	115	118
Prices Paid	140	141	147	147
Ratio 1/	85	84	78	80

1/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid.

Colorado wheat, at \$4.28 per bushel for mid-June 2006, increased 2 cents from the previous month and was 1.29 higher than June a year ago. Mid-June corn prices dropped 4 cents below May to \$2.30 per bushel but averaged 22 cents

above June 2005. The mid-June potato price, at \$8.20 per cwt, decreased 9 cents from last month but was \$3.75 per cwt above June a year ago. The alfalfa hay price, at \$120.00 per ton, increased \$18.00 from last month and was \$33.00 above a year ago. Other hay price, at \$115.00 per ton, increased \$17.00 from last month and was \$40.00 above June a year ago. The mid-June steer and heifer price was \$3.00 above last month at \$104.00 per cwt but averaged \$6.00 below the \$110.00 per cwt a year ago. Cow prices were down 50 cents from last month to \$47.70 per cwt and were \$8.90 per cwt below June 2005. Calf prices, at \$126.00 per cwt, increased \$6.00 from May but were \$16.00 lower than the \$142.00 per cwt received a year ago.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		June 2005	May 2006	June 2006
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	2.99	4.26	4.28
Corn	Bu.	2.08	2.34	2.30
Barley (All)	Bu.	2/	2/	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	4.45	8.29	8.20
Dry edible beans	Cwt	2/	18.40	18.90
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	87.00	102.00	120.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	75.00	98.00	115.00
Livestock & Products...				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	109.00	100.00	103.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	110.00	101.00	104.00
Cows	Cwt	56.60	48.20	47.70
Calves	Cwt	142.00	120.00	126.00
Sheep	Cwt	37.20	34.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	117.00	95.00	3/
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	14.20	12.00	12.10
United States				
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat	Bu.	3.23	4.09	3.96
Corn	Bu.	2.03	2.17	2.05
Soybeans	Bu.	6.58	5.68	5.57
Barley (All)	Bu.	2.55	2.96	2.77
Barley (Feed)	Bu.	2.04	2.57	2.25
Sorghum	Cwt	3.77	4.01	4.12
Potatoes	Cwt	6.29	8.05	8.50
Dry edible beans	Cwt	27.70	19.40	18.50
Alfalfa hay (baled)	Ton	112.00	118.00	115.00
Other hay (baled)	Ton	73.60	96.80	90.10
Onions	Cwt	17.80	13.40	12.80
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	88.00	82.20	84.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	91.50	86.50	88.40
Cows	Cwt	56.80	47.50	46.10
Calves	Cwt	140.00	132.00	132.00
Sheep	Cwt	41.20	33.20	3/
Lambs	Cwt	114.00	88.90	3/
Hogs	Cwt	49.50	48.20	53.20
Milk sold to plants	Cwt	14.40	12.00	12.10
Broilers	Lb.	0.440	0.340	0.390

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments. 2/ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

3/ Discontinued.

HOGS AND PIGS

JUNE 1, 2006

The June 1, 2006 inventory of all hogs and pigs in **Colorado** totaled 820,000 head, up 5 percent from a year earlier. The breeding inventory at 150,000 head, was up 7 percent from last year, and the market hog inventory increased 5 percent to 670,000 head. During the December 2005 - May 2006 period, 160,000 sows farrowed, up 5 percent from the same time period a year ago. The number of pigs born during the period totaled 1.4 million up from 1.3 million born during the same time period a year earlier. The number of pigs per litter during the Dec - May time periods averaged 8.9, up from 8.7 in 2005.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2006 was 60.9 million head. This was up slightly from June 1, 2005 and up 1 percent from March 1, 2006. Breeding inventory, at 6.06 million head, was up 1 percent from both last year and from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.9 million head, was up slightly from last year and up 2 percent from last quarter.

The March-May 2006 pig crop, at 26.3 million head, was up 1 percent from 2005 and up 3 percent from 2004. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.90 million head, up 1 percent from both 2005 and 2004. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.08 for the March-May 2006 period, compared to 9.02 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.92 million sows farrow during the June-August 2006 quarter, up slightly from the actual farrowings in 2005, and up 1 percent from 2004. Intended farrowings for September-November 2006, at 2.92 million sows, are up one percent from both 2005 and 2004.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 38 percent of the total United States hog inventory, down from 40 percent last year.

Hogs and Pigs, June 1, 2005-2006

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
1,000 Head				
All Hogs & Pigs.....	780	820	60,732	60,927
Kept for breeding.....	140	150	5,977	6,060
Market	640	670	54,754	54,867
Under 60 lbs	355	350	20,423	20,598
60-119 lbs	110	85	13,376	13,442
120-179 lbs	60	90	11,143	11,195
180 lbs. & over	115	145	9,813	9,633
Sows Farrowed:				
Dec. <u>1</u> / thru Feb.....	75	79	2,835	2,840
Mar. thru May.....	77	81	2,882	2,897
Dec. thru May <u>2</u> /.....	152	160	5,717	5,737
Pig Crop:				
Dec. <u>1</u> / thru Feb.....	641	695	25,343	25,656
Mar. thru May.....	678	721	25,986	26,301
Dec. thru May <u>2</u> /.....	1,319	1,416	51,329	51,957

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- July 6 - Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts - Annual
- July 10 - Vegetables
- July 12 - Crop Production
- July 18 - Milk Production
- July 21 - Cold Storage
- July 21 - Cattle
- July 21 - Cattle on Feed
- July 21 - Livestock Slaughter
- July 21 - Sheep

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